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HOUSE RESOLUTION 138  
By Davidson

A RESOLUTION to recognize March 2, 2000, as "Read Across Tennessee Day" and to urge support for reading programs.

WHEREAS, March 2, 2000, the birthday of Dr. Seuss, marks the third annual Read Across America celebration that calls for every child in every community across the country to be in the company of a book; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, more than one million teachers, parents and community leaders throughout America championed the importance of reading as the key to success and shared their favorite books with ten million children; and

WHEREAS, success of any kind on the "Knowledge Frontier" of the Twenty-First Century will hinge on a person's ability to read. Reading is fundamental to education and links achievement, learning and earning to the opportunities and challenges that face Tennessee's school children. Reading is also essential in attaining personal and career goals; and

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WHEREAS, this state has committed itself to funding the Basic Education Program in order to assure every child the basic fundamentals of a quality education, of which reading is the cornerstone; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to join in partnership with the Tennessee Education Association, civic and community organizations, teachers, parents, volunteers, families and friends in helping Tennessee's school children realize the importance of reading as the key to future opportunity; and

WHEREAS, this Assembly is delighted to salute President Velma Lois Jones of the Tennessee Education Association; Judy Beasley, Tennessee's Chairperson for Read Across America and Vice President of the Tennessee Education Association; and other officers, members, volunteers, educators, families and friends for their efforts to ensure the success of this reading celebration and for contributing to the quality of education in the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That this body recognizes March 2, 2000, as "Read Across Tennessee Day" and recommits this state to helping make Tennessee's children, and America's children, the best readers in the world. All Tennesseans are urged to join in supporting local activities within their communities as part of this celebration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.